

DOCKET NO: 248686US26KK

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SHINJI NAGASHIMA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: PADGETT, MARIANNE
SERIAL NO: 10/774,423 :
FILED: FEBRUARY 10, 2004 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1792
FOR: HARDENING PROCESSING :
APPARATUS, HARDENING
PROCESSING METHOD, AND COATING
FILM FORMING APPARATUS

ELECTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the election requirement dated January 30, 2008, Applicants elect without traverse Group I corresponding to Claims 1-18 and indicated in the outstanding Action as being drawn to a multi-chamber apparatus, classified in class 118, subclass 641+. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected invention.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Group I corresponding to Claims 1-18 is believed to be in order and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

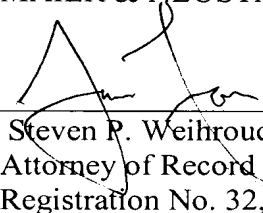
Respectfully submitted,

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